

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 03566 181332Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /105 W
----- 129771

R 181225Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2791

INFO AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL DA NANG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 3566

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: PROFESSOR HUY ON PROSPECTS FOR THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
ALLIANCE

REF: SAIGON 3146

1. ON MARCH 17, DR. NGUYEN NGOC HUY, LEADER OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (SDA) TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT THE SDA HAS ALREADY ACHIEVED THE ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS ESTABLISHED BY DECREE LAW 060. (SEE REFTTEL FOR A DISCUSSION OF THE SDA'S PROSPECTS UNDER DL 060.)

2. HE SAID THE WORK THAT REMAINED WAS A MATTER OF ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL. DR. HUY EXPLAINED THAT THE SDA HAD ORGANIZED IN THIRTY PROVINCES AND SAIGON AND SIGNED UP THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF MEMBERS. THE DECREE LAW, HE POINTED OUT, ONLY REQUIRES TWENTY-SEVEN PROVINCES PLUS SAIGON.

3. THE ONLY REMAINING OBSTACLE TO THE SDA'S QUALIFICATION AS A POLITICAL PARTY UNDER THE LAW, HUY NOTED, IS A RULING OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR THAT CERTIFICATES OF RESIDENCE MUST BE PRESENTED FOR ALL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 03566 181332Z

THOSE WHOSE SIGNATURES ARE OFFERED IN SATISFACTION OF THE REQUIREMENTS

OF THE DECREE LAW. THIS REQUIREMENT, DR. HUY CONTINUED, IS NOT IN THE LAW, AND HE HAD EMPHASIZED TO PRESIDENT THIEU THAT IT IS AN "ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT" WHICH WOULD MAKE IT "IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY PARTY TO ORGANIZE" (SEE COMMENT). "WE ARE NOT AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE STOOD ASIDE. WE HAVE PLAYED THE GAME" HE SAID, MAKING A PARTICULAR POINT THAT IN HIS OPINION, IF SUCH ADMINISTRATIVE DEVICES ARE USED TO PREVENT VALIDATION OF THE SDA, DECREE LAW 060 WOULD BE SEEN BY THE WHOLE WORLD TO BE NOT AN INSTRUMENT TO OBTAIN A MORE RATIONAL POLITICAL STRUCTURE, AS THE ADMINISTRATION CLAIMS, BUT RATHER AS AN INSTRUMENT TO SUPPRESS ALL ORGANIZED OPPOSITION.

4. IN FACT HUY HOPED THE FORCE OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION MIGHT BE A FACTOR RESTRAINING THE ADMINISTRATION FROM REQUIRING THE PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF RESIDENCE. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PRESIDENT

HAS ORDERED PROVINCE CHIEFS TO BE COOPERATIVE TOWARD THE SDA IN ITS VALIDATION EFFORTS, BUT NO RESULTS OF ANY SUCH ORDERS ARE YET APPARENT.

DR. HUY STATED THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED HIS CADRES TO SUBMIT THE LISTS OF NAMES AND SIGNATURES WITHOUT OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATES OF RESIDENCE
HE NOTED THAT THESE CERTIFICATES ARE DIFFICULT TO GET, NOT ONLY BECAUSE
THE OFFICERS FROM WHOM THEY MUST BE OBTAINED ARE USUALLY MEMBERS OF THE

DEMOCRACY PARTY, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE PROHIBITIVE COST INVOLVED, AT SOME 40 PIASTERS PER PERSON.

5. THOUGH THERE ARE MANY CENTRIFUGAL FORCES OPERATING ON THE VARIOUS COMPONENT PARTIES OF THE SDA, DR. HUY FELT THAT THE CENTRIPETAL FORCES
OUTWEIGH THEM. ON BEING ASKED FOR EXAMPLES, HE MENTIONED THE DESIRE OF THE VNQDD ELEMENT WITHIN THE SDA TO EXCORIATE THE GOVERNMENT AS THE KIND OF TENDENCY HE HAD TO HOLD IN CHECK. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE WORKER-FARMER PARTY CADRES OPERATE BETTER AS LABOR LEADERS THAN AS POLITICAL ORGANIZERS. HOWEVER, HUY THOUGHT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WORKER-FARMER PARTY AND OTHER SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE COMPONENTS ARE GOOD.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SAIGON 03566 181332Z

6. AS AN EXAMPLE OF A CENTRIPETAL FORCE, HE CITED CONTINUING EFFORTS ON HIS PART TO EDUCATE AND ORGANIZE HIS PARTY CADRE AND TO WIN THE MEMBERS AND LEADERSHIP OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT GROUPS TO HIS OWN POINT OF VIEW, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "CENTRIST". HE DESCRIBED THE SDA AS REFLECTING A POLITICAL SPECTRUM RUNNING FROM THE HOA HAO AND CAO DAI ON THE RIGHT TO THE VNQDD ON THE LEFT. HE FELT THE PARTY IS UNIFIED AND WAS OPTIMISTIC FOR ITS PROSPECTS.

7. DR. HUY SAID THAT IN POLITICS ORGANIZATION IS PARAMOUNT. HE CRITICIZED "THIRD FORCE" OPPOSITION FIGURES WHO BELIEVED THEY COULD MAINTAIN THEIR POLITICAL STANDING SIMPLY BY ISSUING "SMASHING DECLARATIONS" FROM TIME TO TIME WITHOUT PAYING ATTENTION TO ORGANIZATION. THIS WAS A MISGUIDED VIEW, HE BELIEVED.

8. COMMENT: DR. HUY SEEMED GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF SDA VALIDATION, BUT WAS ALSO CLEARLY LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE EFFORT MAY YET FAIL. IF IT DOES FAIL, DR. HUY OBVIOUSLY WANTS TO BE SURE THAT THE BLAME FALLS ELSEWHERE THAN ON THE SDA ITSELF.

9. RE THE POINT DR. HUY RAISED ABOUT RESIDENCE CERTIFICATES, DL-060 STATES IN ARTICLE 10 (C) THAT "A PARTY MEMBER MUST HAVE HIS OFFICIAL RESIDENCE IN THE LOCALITY CONCERNED AND MUST APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE POLITICAL PARTY." WHILE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE IS NOT MENTIONED PER SE, IT WOULD NOT BE HARD FOR THE GVN TO DEFEND THE POSITION THAT SINCE RESIDENCE MUST BE ESTABLISHED, A CERTIFICATE IS A LOGICAL REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE GVN REALLY WISHES TO FACILITATE SDA VALIDATION, IT WOULD SEEM AN EASY BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURE TO WAIVE THE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENT.
MARTIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, POLITICAL LEADERS, PARTY MEETINGS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON03566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740335/aaaabgui.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SAIGON 3146
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROFESSOR HUY ON PROSPECTS FOR THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE
TAGS: PINT, VS, SDA, (HUY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005